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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: KIKUCHI et al

Serial No.: 10/500,931 ✓

Filed: July 9, 2004

For: Fabrication Method Of Semiconductor  
Integrated Circuit Device

Art Unit:

Examiner:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop: Amendment  
Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 23, 2004

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully requested in connection with the above-identified application as listed below and as set forth on the following pages:

Amendments to the Specification;

Amendments to the Abstract; and

Remarks are included following the amendments.